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Our Case No. 5404-147

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Shigeru KAWANO et al. )  
International Application No. PCT/JP2004/016666 )  
International Filing Date: November 10, 2004 ) Examiner  
Serial No. N/A ) Group Art Unit No.  
Filing Date: Herewith )  
For NOVEL ACETOACETYL-CoA REDUCTASE )  
AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING )  
OPTICALLY ACTIVE ALCOHOL )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop New Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.